revival scheme of the company is under consideration of the State Government.

Consumer Courts in Uttar Pradesh

2190. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in Uttar Pradesh where Consumer Courts have been set up;

(b) by when such courts would be set up in all districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the steps taken to create consumer awareness in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION DEPTT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (SHRI VENOD SHARMA) (a) As per information sent by the State Government 63 District Forums are functioning in Uttar Pradesh. The details of these District Forums are given in the "All India directory of Redressal Agencies" which is available in the Parliament Library.

(b) The Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that they have initiated action to set up consumer courts in the newly created five districts.

(c) The Government is launching various publicity programmes to create consumer awareness with the help of State/UT Governments. Seminars/ Meeting to popularise the main theme of the programme etc. are bing organised from time to time. The State Government has been released a sum of Rs. 170.00 lakhs as a first instalment to strengthen the infrastructural facilities of the State Commission and District Forums.

Export of Skimmed Milk Powder

2191. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of skimmed milk powder allowed for export during the last three years, details thereof alongwith the rates;

(b) whether the export of this powder will be liberalised in the coming year; and

(c) the average rate of skimmed milk powder in the country alongwith external reference price during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) the ceiling released for export of mill powder during the last three years are as under:—

(In M. Tonnes)

Item	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Powder milk (skimmed or full cream) whole or infant milk-food.	Export of this item was canalised through NDDB up to Sept. 1993.	25,000	25,000
For the current year a ceiling of 10,000 MTs has been released.			

The quantity and value of skimmed milk powder exported as well as the average unit value realisation for the years 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95 is as

Item	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
		(Qty : In MT) (Val: In Rs. Lakhs) (*Unit Val: In Rs/MT*)	
Year	Qty.	Value	Unit Value
1992-93	80.15	51.58	64,354
1993-94	671.84	263.47	39,216
1994-95	5947.58	2178.71	36,631

(SOURCE: DGCI&S, CALCUTTA)

(b) It is the policy of the Government to allow export of any item of mass consumption only after careful consideration of domestic requirement. Further the review of Exim Policy is a continuous process and as and when considered necessary changes are notified.

(c) The prevailing domestic price of skimmed milk powder ranges between Rs. 60,000 and Rs. 62,000/. PMT (Ex-factory price), whereas International prices of EEC origin of skimmed milk powder are about Rs. 82,250/MT.

Lack of Infrastructural Facilities for Exports

2192. SHRI KRISHAN LALA SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the main constraints in the smooth flow of goods for exports are lack of infrastructural facilities;

(b) whether Government have identified these constraints; and

(c) the steps being taken or already taken to remove them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Export infrastructure includes utilities, support services for production, transportation, communications, banking, customs facilities etc. and is catered to by Government Departments and by public and private agencies.

Creation of Export infrastructure involves heavy investments and gestation periods. Consequently, the growth of infrastructure tends to trail the rate of growth in exports initially.

Government is taking concerted action to strengthen the infrastructure. Communication links and technologies are being upgraded. Investments for providing support services to production are underway. Increased recourse has been made to containerisation and multimodal transport of goods with attendant strengthening of the infrastructure at ports. Inland Container Deposits (ICDs) and Container Freight Stations (CFSs) are being established at various locations in the country involving the private sector as will. An Open Sky Policy for carriage of Air Cargo has been introduced to augment air cargo capacity. Procedural simplifications have been introduced.

The Ministry of Commerce maintains close liaison with exporters and agencies involved in the export function to facilitate free movement of goods. Regular meetings of Standing Committees on promotion of Exports by Air and Shipping (SCOPE — AIR and SCOPE-SHIPPING) are held to resolve critical issues.